

FOREIGN OFFICE ANNOUNCEMENTS 1940

May 13, 1940. Statement of the Foreign Office Spokesman
Concerning the Netherlands East Indies.

The British Ambassador, Sir Robert Craigie, at 6:00 o'clock this afternoon, called on the Foreign Minister, Mr. Hachiro Arita, at the latter's official residence with the reply of his home Government to the representation made by Foreign Minister Arita on May 11 regarding the Netherlands East Indies. The British Ambassador told Foreign Minister Arita that the British Government fully share the Japanese Government's concern over the Netherlands East Indies but believe that the Dutch forces in the Netherlands East Indies are sufficient for the maintenance of the *status quo* of those islands, while Great Britain has no intention whatever of intervening there. The British Ambassador left the Foreign Office at 6:40 o'clock this evening.

May 15, 1940. Statement of the Foreign Office Spokesman
Concerning the Netherlands Minister's Notification with
Regard to the Netherlands East Indies.

At 10:00 A.M. today, the Netherlands Minister, General J. C. Fabst, called on the Foreign Minister, Mr. Hachiro Arita, at the latter's official residence under instructions from his home Government with reference to the Foreign Minister's communication to the Netherlands Government made on the 11th of this month, and stated that the Netherlands Government are of the belief that Great Britain, the United States and France have no intention of intervening in the Netherlands East Indies.

The Netherlands Minister took leave of the Foreign Minister at 10:20 A.M.

May 16, 1940. Statement of the Foreign Office Spokesman
Concerning the French Ambassador's Notification with
Regard to the Netherlands East Indies.

The French Ambassador, Mr. Charles Arsene-Henry, called on the Foreign Minister, Mr. Hachiro Arita, at the Foreign Office at 3:30 P.M. today under instructions from his home Government with reference to the Foreign Minister's communication to the French Ambassador made on the 11th of this month regarding the maintenance of *status quo* of Netherlands East Indies, and stated that the French Government entirely agree with the Japanese policy on the question.

The French Ambassador left at 4:00 P.M.